

The Family— 06/6/21

TEXT- Ephesians 5:18-28 *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess;*

INTRO – Christianity has provided the best culture for America.

Jonathan Edwards' the great puritan revivalist legacy includes: 1 U.S. Vice-President, 1 Dean of a law school, 1 dean of a medical school, 3 U.S. Senators, 3 governors, 3 mayors, 13 college presidents, 30 judges, 60 doctors, 65 professors, 75 Military officers, 80 public office holders, 100 lawyers, 100 clergymen, and 285 college graduates.

Max Jukes' legacy came to people's attention when the family trees of 42 different men in the New York prison system were traced back to him.

He lived in New York at about the same period as Edwards.

7 murderers, 60 thieves, 190 prostitutes, 150 other convicts, 310 paupers, and 440 addicted to alcohol. Of the 1,200 descendants that were studied, 300 died prematurely.

Christianity's Positive Impact On Society

• **The Rise of Modern Science**

1. Science rose in the West, not in the East. Why?
2. Whitehead and Oppenheimer insisted that modern science could not have been born except in a Christian environment.
3. Many pioneering scientists were not only theists, but Christians: Newton, Pasteur, Kepler, Paschal, Fleming, Edwards.

• **B. The Development of Higher Education**

1. The Puritans were 95 per cent literate.
2. 100 of the first 110 universities in America were founded for the express purpose of propagating the Christian religion.

• **Social Change**

Early Christians stood in opposition to infanticide, degradation of women, gladiatorial combats, slavery, etc.

1. Colonial education was classical and Christian, with the Bible and its principles primary to all learning. The New England Primer appeared about 1690 and was almost universally adopted. It was the chief beginning reading book for American schools for over 100 years. The contents clearly show its religious character and purpose.

2. Framers of the Constitution and Declaration of Independence.

The vast majority at the Constitutional Convention (55 delegates) were members of Protestant churches:

- 3. 1808 – The English slave trade was abolished.**
- 4. Prison reform enacted**
- 5. Labor reform:**

6. Harriett Beecher Stowe. Daughter of a preacher, married to a preacher; all her brothers were preachers. Her book, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* Sold three million copies in America, then 40 million worldwide in 40 languages).

7. missionary and philanthropic organizations in the U. S. and England:

- Barnardo's Homes (world's largest orphanage system)
- William Booth's Salvation Army
- Henri Dunant, a student evangelist in Geneva, founded the Red Cross in 1865
- YMCA was founded in 1844 and grew greatly
- (Christian Missionary Society) taught 200,000 to read in East Africa in one generation
 - Secured the abolition of widow-burning and child sacrifice
 - Brought medicine to the world
 - Actually founded the educational systems in China, Japan, and Korea.

Psalm 33:12 *Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD;*

- **There is either a God or there is not a God**
- **Jesus Christ is either the son of God incarnate in the flesh or he is an imposter and a fraud.**
- **The Bible is either God's infallible Word or it is filled with lies and a fairy tale.**

If there is a God and Jesus Christ is the Son of God and if the Bible is true all men will one day stand before Him to give account of his life.

There is a God and Jesus Christ is the Messiah/ Son of God and salvation is only through Him.

Becoming a Christian provides the power of the Holy Spirit and a change in one's life that provides the best way to live.

There are many wonderful institutions that have been started by men and women throughout history. Many institutions have noble causes, impressive mission statements, and notable achievements. However, there are only three institutions that have commenced under the express authority and plan of Almighty God. The foundation and purpose of each of these institutions is found in the Bible.

They each have a divine purpose, and many troubles begin to develop when they ignore their stated purpose. Troubles also arise when one of these institutions tries to take on the clearly-stated responsibilities of one of the other institutions.

1. **The Family** – God’s means of procreation and education
2. **Government** – Some form of rule became necessary since the Fall in the garden
3. **The church** – God’s plan to evangelize the world

I. The Formation of the Family

God created man from the dust and woman from the man.

The man and the woman were of equal importance to God but as a result of sin an order of authority was established.

A. A man must leave father and mother and cleave unto his wife.

- The man was given responsibility to work and provide for his home
- To lead his home and love his wife
- To protect his family and nurture his children

He is to be the priest, protector and provider

B. The wife is the supporter of her husband, the keeper of her home and an example to her children

C. The children have one responsibility – Obey your parents!

The happiest and most contented people on earth are those living by the word of God!

The Biblical family unit is the building block of any functioning civilization

God’s plan is not self-centered but it ends up as the best plan for happiness

Living for self does not lead to happiness.

Everyone has a choice: Live by your own emotions and thinking or live by the eternal Word of God.

II. The Breakdown of the Family

Total number of abortions in the U.S. 1973-2018: 61.8 million+

- First Marriages: 42-45 percent will terminate with a divorce as the result.
- Second Marriages: 60 percent will terminate with a divorce as the result.
- Third Marriages: 73 percent will terminate with a divorce as the result

The number of unmarried partners living together in the United States nearly tripled in two decades from 6 million to 17 million, 7% of the total adult population

There are 112 million unmarried people over age 18 in the U.S., representing nearly 47% of the adult population. U.S. Census Bureau. (as of 2012)

Of the traditional homes in America, how many are happy and Godly homes?

Consider:

The culture at the time of the Flood

Gen 6:5 *And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

Time of the Judges

Jdg 17:6 *In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*

Sodom and Gomorrah

Gen 19:4-7 *But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: 5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. 6 And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, 7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.*

The days of Revelation

Mat 24:37-39 *But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*

In the Days of Noah

- People didn’t want to listen
- People were too busy for God
- They didn’t prepare themselves for the Day of Judgment
- They hated the righteous

III. The Restoration of the home

A. It begins at salvation

B. Repentance is necessary

- **Submission and humility are the keys**

2 Ch 7:14 *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

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